

The Historic American Building Survey in Garrett Park

The Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS) is a documentary program of the National Park Service, the Library of Congress, and the American Institute of Architects. Since 1933, HABS, "the oldest of the Federal Government's Historic Preservation Programs," has been collecting measured drawings, photographs, and written documentation on a wide range of historic structures in the United States. Production of these documents is overseen by the National Park Service. Documentation may be undertaken by National Park Service employees, by contractors, or by architectural schools. The resulting archive of materials is maintained in the Prints and Photographs Division of the Library of Congress where it is available to the public. Documentation produced for the Historic American Buildings Survey must meet established measures of quality, both for the buildings chosen for documentation and the records accepted for the archives. More information about the Historic American Buildings Survey can be found on the National Park Service website:

<http://www.nps.gov/hdp/habs/index.htm>

A digital catalog, including images, of all but the most recently recorded structures is available through the Library of Congress website: <http://www.loc.gov/pictures/>

Between 1993 and 1995, classes from the University of Maryland documented a number of Garrett Park houses using HABS standards. Architectural students measured and drew the structures at 10806 Keswick Street (a Queen Anne style house), 10805 Clermont Avenue (a Techbuilt house), 10814 Kenilworth Avenue (the Town Hall), and 11010 Kenilworth Avenue (a transitional Queen Anne/Four Square house). They also produced a set of drawings documenting the floor plan, porch styles, and interior details of the Chevy House. Copies of these drawings can be found in the Garrett Park Archives, located at ground level behind the Post Office at 4600 Waverly Ave.) The originals are in the collection of the Historic American Building Survey. In addition, a number of history students at the University of Maryland produced written documentation based on the HABS format for a number of other structures in Garrett Park. These include the houses at 10802 Kenilworth Avenue; 10811 Kenilworth Avenue; 10909 Kenilworth Avenue; 11018 Kenilworth Avenue; 11210 Kenilworth Avenue; and 4711 Waverly Avenue. Copies of this material are in the Garrett Park Archives.